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Montana State University Extension
- Yard and Garden:
<http://gardenguide.montana.edu/>
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YELLOWSTONE MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER



Vol I Issue 9

October 2012

Featured Master Gardener Elaine Allard

-Submitted by Bob Wicks



The Master Gardener of the Month is Elaine Allard. Elaine has been in the Master Gardener program since 2002 and has seen many changes. Bob Gough was the instructor when Elaine started; when Bob became the head of his department at MSU, he stopped teaching the Master Gardener classes. The first year after Bob stopped teaching the program guest speakers from our area taught the Master Gardener classes. The following year the Master Gardeners themselves took turns talking about the subjects they were most passionate about to teach the other members. After all this, Bob's wife Cheryl Moore-Gough filled the position as the head of the Master Gardener program. She taught it until Toby Day at MSU became our coordinator.

Elaine grew up in the Bull Mountains on her family ranch. Her mom still lives there. Elaine then went to MSU to study physical therapy and had a job in the Agriculture Department while she was attending college. This is when she discovered that she loved gardening. She just had a natural understanding of how plants work. Elaine then switched major to agriculture. While in college, she started working for the Bureau of Land Management in the field of Range Management and continued to work for them after getting her degree. Elaine and her husband Lou started their family while she worked for the BLM and she then took on the role as a "domestic engineer". Elaine was not done working yet... she was a substitute teacher and was very involved with her children's schools. In 2005 Elaine decided to work to get her master's degree in education. She took evening classes in 2005 and 2006 and received her Masters of Education at that point. Currently she has a pond business selling pond supplies and plants for ponds.

In the Master Gardener program Elaine is involved in the Metra demo garden, Montana Fair, Farmers Market, Arbor Day, after school program, and the Geranium Fest. Elaine is also one of the first members of the Yellowstone County Master Gardener Association and is a level 3 Master Gardener. Elaine's favorite part of gardening is water gardening and xeriscaping. She has a 3000 gallon pond and many small water gardens in her yard. When not busy with her yard and ponds, Elaine likes to travel and hang out with her grandkids. Elaine has traveled to Hawaii, Bahamas, Mexico and Washington D.C. among other interesting places. Elaine also is involved in the Thumb-R-Green Garden Club and started the Water Skippers Garden Club. Elaine and her husband Lou have 2 sons, Clay and Bryce. Clay has 3 year old twins, Andy and Lily.

Elaine's tip of the month is to try to make gardening as easy as you can by using good water practices and being conscientious about where you place plants in your yard. Elaine is a very outgoing and fun person to be with. I have been on a lot of trips and have sat in a lot of meetings with Elaine and always laughed and learned a lot from her. Thank you Elaine for the fun and energy you bring to the program

FALL CHECK LIST

- ◆ If you don't have a compost pile, this is a great time to start and use one. Save fallen leaves to add to garden directly or to compost.
- ◆ This is a good time to spread compost, rotted manure, leaves, grass clippings etc. over the garden, before fall tilling. Fall till if at all possible, to help kill over wintering insects.
- ◆ If you are having a problem with perennial weeds such as thistles, make some fall applications of Roundup to start fighting back.
- ◆ September 22 is the average first frost date. Killing frost to tender plants occurs when temperatures reach 26-30 degrees.
- ◆ If possible, cover tender plants to protect them from frost, in the hopes that an Indian summer will extend the growing season afterwards. Try to keep covers off foliage, as frost will pass through them and into any foliage that they touch. Always remove covers by mid morning. Otherwise, plants may become burned as heat builds up.
- ◆ If a light frost sneaks up on you, simply sprinkle down the garden to prevent a too fast thaw. This is best done before the sun hits the foliage.

Vegetable Garden

- ◆ When onion tops naturally fall over, they are through growing. After digging, allow the bulbs to lie in the sun for one to several days to mature the outer scales to a papery state. The onions with thicker necks should be used first, as they will not store as well as thinner necked onions. Twist tops off of bulbs rather than cut, as this helps seal the bulb from fungus. Store at 50-55 degrees in a dry location.
- ◆ Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, etc. can take temperatures down to 25 degrees.
- ◆ Harvest pumpkins and winter squash after light frost, but before a heavy freeze. Cut fruit from the vine with about a 3" portion of the stem attached. Cure by placing in a heated, ventilated area at 75-80 degrees for 2 weeks. This hardens the shell for storage. (Do not cure acorn squash). Store pumpkin and squash at 40-50 degrees after curing.

Trees and Shrubs

- ◆ Homeowners should refrain from watering established trees and shrubs from mid September to mid November (or when trees start turning their fall color). This helps encourage dormancy. Heavy irrigation, nitrogen fertilizers and pruning (except for dead wood) all can cause trees to break dormancy and begin new growth, making them susceptible to winter injury. If however, the fall turns out to be long, hot, and dry irrigation may again be needed. Continue irrigating newly transplanted trees and shrubs (up to 3 years after being planted) as usual.
- ◆ Deep water trees and shrubs for the winter, after they have turned their fall color or dropped their leaves. If fall Drought conditions persist, continue watering, if needed, thru December, as long as the ground is not frozen.
- ◆ Put tree wraps on tender, dark barked trees, to prevent sun scorch.

Lawns

- ◆ Fall is a good time to fertilize your lawn.
- ◆ Continue watering lawns thru the autumn season. Fall, with its long cool evenings, favors the dense, vigorous growth of Kentucky Bluegrass.
- ◆ Continue mowing right up till winter sets in. Long matted grass invites winter disease problems.

Flower Gardens

- ◆ The month of Sept thru early Oct is the time to plant spring flowering bulbs. In our higher elevation it's recommended that bulbs be planted approx 2" deeper than suggested on most bulb planting guides. Renew old bulb beds by digging up and discarding weaker bulbs and replanting stronger, larger ones.
- ◆ Cut back Iris and other perennial flowers after frost kills vegetation.
- ◆ For a more complete list of Fall gardening activities –go to Grapevine on Yellowstone County Master Gardener's web site www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov/extension/horticulture/grapevine.asp

Yellowstone County Master Gardener Association Update

The Yellowstone County Master Gardener Association Board meeting was held Sept 19, 2012. Molly Richard, a volunteer at Northern Plains Resource Council and Yellowstone Valley Citizens Council, gave a short presentation on school garden projects in our area. She also suggested that we may want to become more involved in helping to develop school gardens in Yellowstone County.

Bob and Sharon have been working on a discount program at area nurseries for all Association members. Gainan's has offered a 5% discount for nursery stock (excluding sale items) for all card carrying members of the Association and also an early notice on sales. The offers will be for members only— not transferable to other persons. We are working on a YCMGA member ID card.

Our non profit application is in to the Federal Government and we haven't heard back from them yet.

Our 2nd Association Picnic was held 8-14 at the Zoo's Sensory Garden. There were about 50 people in attendance. Many 1st year MG students attended. We honored Ruth Towe (red hibiscus planted at Moss Mansion), Shirley Spildie (aster at Zoo), and Amy Grandpre (prairie grass planted at Courthouse).

The Master Gardener State meeting for 2012 was held in Billings, Sept 21-22. We had tours of DanWalt Gardens, Zoo Montana, the Audubon Conservation Center and the Bridger Plant Center.

Recognition awards were given out by Toby Day. Our own Amy Grandpre was awarded Coordinator of the Year.

Our next meeting is Oct 18th at 5:30 pm at the Courthouse. This meeting is open to all Associates in good standing, however, only Board members can vote.

The Nov meeting will be Nov 15th. Our Christmas party is being planned for Dec 5th.

Submitted by Sharon Wetsch

Recipe of the Month

SPICY CARROT SOUP

1 Tablespoon olive oil

1 medium leek— white & light green part only, chopped

About 6 carrots— peeled and sliced to 3/4 inch

2 teaspoons Harissa (I used several drops Tabasco sauce)

Salt to taste

3 cups chicken stock

Heat oil over medium heat and cook leek till soft, about 4-5 minutes

Stir in carrots and harissa. Cook till carrots are soft, about 8-10 minutes. Add stock and salt and simmer 10-12 minutes.

Answers to Questionnaire - How soon do you read the Newsletter...

.02% Answered within 2 weeks

.07% Answered within 6 weeks

Thanks to all who answered our poll..!

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Tour

Wed. Oct 3,

At 2:00 PM

Morris Propp's

**67 Riverview Road,
Park City, Mt**

Morris has about 3 acres on the river front and this should be a beautiful fall colors tour for us. He has perennials and lots of big trees that are turning color. To get there Turn off the highway at Park City go past truck stop follow frontage road

West for 4 1/2 miles then left on Riverview Road look for a mailbox, you then go approx 3/4 mile down the road his house is a big tan house with lots of trees (some are very large). There is limited parking so please carpool. We should have a spectacular view of the trees turning colors and see the gardens of perennials. This promises to be a beautiful fall tour.

Hope to see you all there.

**Any questions please call me..... Sharon
406-351-1409**



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Best wishes to these
Master Gardeners with
October Birthdays!

10-2 Joyce Schwartz
10-14 Nick Nicoll
10-15 Gloria Ervin
10-15 Lauren Asmus

Please send your birthday
date (not the year) to
Amy at agrand-
pre@co.yellowstone.mt.gov



TIPS FOR THE MONTH

1. Do soil tests for the lawn and garden. Have fertilizer ready for each.
2. Plant bulbs for Spring. If you have extra think about forcing them in pots.
3. If bringing in plants from outside, be sure they are bug free. Lay them on their sides and spray with hose well. Spray with insecticidal soap. If in pots, pull plants out and check for webs, bugs, or eggs. Spider mites love to hide.
4. Bindweed, the "forever weed", can be knocked back by spraying after the first HARD frost. It will take it in trying to store final nutrients for winter.
5. Before winter sets in take care of all your garden hand tools. Wash, clean and dry all parts. Sand any chips or rough areas. Sharpen all trimmers, hoes and shovels. With BOILED LINSEED OIL and a rag, rub down all wood handles. With the excess oil in the rag, wipe all metal hoe and shovel heads. They will look like new (sometimes even better) for Spring.
6. If you don't like waiting for repairs in the Spring, don't forget to add Stabil to your gas tanks for lawn mowers, chain saws, rototillers, etc. Let run till it goes through the carburetor.

Submitted by Sheri Kisch

Reminder– Toby says he will give 1 hour credit for each 10 lbs of produce donated. Don't forget to add your hours on Toby's online reports - <http://mtmastergardener.org/>, and on Amy's hardcopy. Please remember to log your hours as they must be turned in at both sites by the end of the year.

Upcoming Events

October 3rd– Tour at Morris Propp's (info can be found on page 3)

October 4th– If you would like to be involved in local food projects like YVCC Food Buying Club, school gardening opportunities or farm-to-school efforts join us on Oct 4th at 5:30PM at Home on the Range (220 So 27th) for a local foods interest meeting. Questions or comments contact– Molly Richard at molly@northernplains.org or 406-248-1154.

October 9– Weed Identification for the Professional Landscaper with an update on Diseases and Insects of Trees to be held at the Yellowstone County Courthouse from Noon to 4PM.

Witchy Names of Herbs

"Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn and cauldron bubble.
Fillet of a fenny snake,
In the cauldron boil and bake;
Eye of newt and toe of frog,
Wool of bat and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg and owlet's wing,
For a charm of powerful trouble,
Like a hell-broth boil and bubble..."

William Shakespeare, Macbeth, Act IV, Scene I

The traditional image of a cauldron of bubbling and boiling magical potion being stirred by a witch originates from the large containers in which herb women boiled their ingredients to produce simples. *Simpling* was the brewing and distilling of herbs, practiced by women in most households in order to keep a very necessary supply of medicinal remedies on hand. Throughout the medieval period, the arts of herbalist, alchemy, and magic were difficult to separate, and the herb women often added the role of spell-caster to their role of dispenser of home-brewed herbal therapies.

The ~tongue of dog~ is referring to Hounds tongue, (*Cynoglossom officinale*). This herb supposedly has the power to quiet the barking of dogs. ~Adder's fork~ is Adder's tongue, (*Ohloglossum vulgatum*), a fern reputed to have healing properties. Witches of the present still use names for herbs and flowers based on things and animals in nature and fantasy realms. Often the names were picked because that's what the herb resembled and was convenient for an old herbalist or teacher to teach and remember. Some sects and separate families, groups, covens or tribes had different names and variations of these names.

Here is a small and I'm sure not the only list of witchy names along with its common names for some herbs, roots and flowers used in witchcraft. It sure is an eye opener to those who may think that to be a true witch one might have to boil up animal parts, blood and maybe even sacrifice human or animal to make potions!

A Bone of an Ibis: Buckthorn
 Adders Tongue: Dogstooth Violet
 A Titan's Blood: Wild Lettuce
 A Lion's Hairs: Tongue of a Turnip (the leaves of the taproot)
 A Man's Bile: Turnip Sap
 A Pig's Tail: Leopard's Bane
 A Hawk's Heart: Heart of Wormwood
 An Eagle: Wild Garlic
 Ass's Foot or Bull's Foot: Coltsfoot
 Blood: Elder sap or another tree sap
 Blood of Hephaistos: Wormwood
 Burning Bush: White Dittany
 Bread and Cheese Tree: Hawthorne
 Blood from a Head: Lupine
 Bird's Eye: Germander Speedwell
 Blood of Ares: Purslane
 Blood of a Goose: Mulberry Tree's Milk
 Bloodwort: Yarrow
 Blood of Hestia: Chamomile
 Blood of an Eye: Tamarisk Gall
 Blood from a Shoulder: Bear's Breach
 Bat's Wings: Holly
 Black Sampson: Echinacea
 Bull's Blood or Seed of Horus: Horehound
 Bear's Foot: Lady's Mantle
 Calf's Snout: Snapdragon
 Cat's Foot: Canada Snake Root and/or Ground Ivy
 Candelmas Maiden: Snowdrop
 Capon's Tail: Valerian
 Christ's Ladder: Centaury
 Cheeses: Marsh Mallow
 Chocolate Flower: Wild Geranium
 Christ's Eye: Vervain Sage
 Clear-eye: Clary Sage
 Click: Goosegrass
 Cucumber Tree: Magnolia
 Clot: Great Mullein
 Corpse Plant: Indian Pipe
 Crowdy Kit: Figwort
 Cuddy's Lungs: Great Mullein
 Crow Foot: Cranesbill
 Cuckoo's Bread: Common Plantain
 Clear Eye: Clary Sage
 Crow's Foot: Wild Geranium
 Devils Dung: Asafoetida
 Dragon's Blood: Calamus
 Dog's Mouth: Snap Dragon
 Daphne: Laurel/Bay
 Devil's Plaything: Yarrow
 Dove's Foot: Wild Geranium
 Dew of the Sea: Rosemary
 Dragon Wort: Bistort
 Earth Smoke: Fumitory
 Eye of Christ: Germander Speedwell
 Elf's Wort: Elecampane
 Enchanter's Plant: Vervain
 Englishman's Foot: Common Plantain
 Erba Santa Maria: Spearmint
 Everlasting Friendship: Goosegrass
 Eye of the Day: Common Daisy

Eye of the Star: Horehound
 Eye Root: Goldenseal
 Eyes: Aster, Daisy, Eyebright
 Frog's Foot: Bulbous Buttercup
 From the Loins: Chamomile
 Fat from a Head: Spurge
 Fairy Smoke: Indian Pipe
 Felon Herb: Mugwort
 From the Belly: Earth-apple
 From the Foot: Houseleek
 Five Fingers: Cinquefoil
 Fox's Clote: Burdock
 Graveyard Dust: Mullein
 Goat's Foot: Ash Weed
 God's Hair: Hart's Tongue Fern
 Golden Star: Aven
 Gosling Wing: Goosegrass
 Graveyard Dust: Mullein
 Great Ox-eye: Ox-eye Daisy
 Hairs of a Hamadryas Baboon: Dill Seed
 Hair of Venus: Maidenhair Fern
 Hag's Taper: Great Mullein
 Hagthorn: Hawthorn
 Hare's Beard: Great Mullein
 Herb of Grace: Vervain
 Hind's Tongue: Hart's Tongue Fern
 Holy Herb: Yerba Santa
 Holy Rope: Hemp Agrimony
 Hook and Arn: Yerba Santa
 Horse Tongue: Hart's Tongue Fern
 Horse Hoof: Coltsfoot
 Hundred Eyes: Periwinkle
 Innocense: Bluets
 Jacob's Staff: Great Mullein
 Joy of the Mountain: Marjoram
 Jupiter's Staff: Great Mullein
 King's Crown: Black Haw
 Knight's Milfoil: Yarrow
 Kronos' Blood: sap of Cedar
 Lady's Glove: Foxglove
 Lion's Tooth: Dandelion
 Lad's Love: Southernwood
 Lamb's Ears: Betony
 Little Dragon: Tarragon
 Love in Idleness: Pansy
 Love Leaves: Burdock
 Love Lies Bleeding: Amaranth/Anemone
 Love Man: Goosegrass
 Love Parsley: Lovage
 Love Root: Orris Root
 Man's Health: Ginseng
 Maiden's Ruin: Southernwood
 Master of the Woods: Woodruff
 May: Black Haw
 May Lily: Lily of the Valley
 May Rose: Black Haw
 Maypops: Passion Flower
 Mistress of the Night: Tuberose
 Mutton Chops: Goosegrass
 Nose Bleed: Yarrow

Old-Maid's-Nightcap: Wild Geranium
 Old Man's Flannel: Great Mullein
 Old Man's Pepper: Yarrow
 Oliver: Olive
 Password: Primrose
 Pucha-pat: Patchouli
 Peter's Staff: Great Mullein
 Priest's Crown: Dandelion leaves
 Poor Man's Treacle: Garlic
 Queen of the Night: Vanilla Cactus
 Queen of the Meadow: Meadowsweet
 Queen of the Meadow Root: Gravelroot
 Ram's Head: American Valerian
 Red Cockscomb: Amaranth
 Ring-o-bells: Bluebells
 Robin-run-in-the-grass: Goosegrass
 Semen of Helios: White Hellebore
 Semen of Herakles: Mustard-rocket
 Semen of Hermes: Dill
 Semen of Hephaistos: Fleabane
 Semen of Ammon: Houseleek
 Semen of Ares: Clover
 Seed of Horus: Horehound
 Sparrow's Tongue: Knotweed
 Soapwort: Comfrey or Daisy
 Shepherd's Heart: Shepherd's Purse
 Swine's Snout: Dandelion leaves
 Shameface: Wild Geranium
 See Bright: Clary Sage
 Scaldhead: Blackberry
 Seven Year's Love: Yarrow
 Silver Bells: Black Haw
 Sorcerer's Violet: Periwinkle
 St. John's Herb: Hemp Agrimony
 St. John's Plant: Mugwort
 Star Flower: Borage
 Star of the Earth: Avens
 Starweed: Chickweed
 Sweethearts: Goosegrass
 Tarragon: Mugwort
 Tartar Root: Ginseng
 Thousand Weed: Yarrow
 Thunder Plant: House Leek
 Tanner's Bark: Toadflax
 Torches: Great Mullein
 Tongue of dog: Houndstongue
 Tears of a Hamadryas Baboon: Dill Juice
 Unicorn Root: Ague Root
 Unicorn's Horn: False Unicorn
 Unicorn Horn: True Unicorn Root
 Wax Dolls: Fumitory
 Weazel Snout: Yellow Archangel
 White: Ox-eye Daisy
 White Wood: White Cinnamon
 Witch's Asprin: White Willow Bark
 Witch's Brier: Brier Hips
 Weasel Snout: Yellow Archangel
 Wolf Foot: Bugle Weed
 Wolf Claw: Club Moss
 Wolf's Milk: Euphorbia
 Weed: Ox-Eye Daisy
 White Man's Foot: Common Plantain

This was an interesting article just in time for Halloween.. Submitted by Tracy Livingston